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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/615,997	07/08/2003	Terrence Robert Davis	IMI-40075 1045		
21015 7	7590 09/19/2006		EXAMINER		
PYLE & PIONTEK 221 N. LASALLE STREET.			NICOLAS, FREDERICK C		
SUITE 2036	DDE STREET,		ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER		
CHICAGO, II	CHICAGO, IL 60601		• 3754		
			DATE MAILED: 09/19/2006	DATE MAILED: 09/19/2006	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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	Application No.	Applicant(s)					
	10/615,997	DAVIS, TERRENCE ROBERT					
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit					
	Frederick C. Nicolas	3754					
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply							
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DA  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period w  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION 36(a). In no event, however, may a reply be tim will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the cause the application to become ARANDONE	N. hely filed the mailing date of this cor					
Status							
1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 Ju	ne 2006.						
2a) ☐ This action is <b>FINAL</b> . 2b) ☑ This action is non-final.							
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is							
closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.							
Disposition of Claims							
4) Claim(s) 1,6,7,10-13,16-18 and 20-27 is/are pending in the application.							
4a) Of the above claim(s) 10,11 and 18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.							
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.							
6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1,6,7,12,13,16,17 and 21-27</u> is/are rejected.							
7) Claim(s) <u>20</u> is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) <u>1,6,7,10-13,16-18 and 20-27</u> are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.							
Application Papers	you to roomonon ana, or orosion	oquo					
•	_						
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.							
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).							
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).							
11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Exa							
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119							
12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign a) All b) Some * c) None of:	priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)	-(d) or (f).					
1. Certified copies of the priority documents	s have been received.						
<ol><li>Certified copies of the priority documents</li></ol>	s have been received in Application	on No					
3. Copies of the certified copies of the prior		d in this National S	Stage				
application from the International Bureau							
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of	of the certified copies not received	d.					
Attachment(s)			ĺ				

Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date.

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

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#### **DETAILED ACTION**

# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 2. Claims 1,6-7,23-24,26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brown et al. 4,266,726.

Brown et al. disclose a dispense head (11) comprising a plurality of inlets (13,123,15,85,103) for connection to separate beverage supply lines, each inlet communicating with a dispense valve (17,25) opening to a common dispense nozzle (119), each inlet opens to an inlet section of the dispense nozzle via a respective dispense valve and the inlet sections merge into a common outlet section as seen in Figure 3, a lower flow is provided at the start of the dispense and/or at the end of the dispense by opening/closing the dispense valves at different times during the dispense (col. 4, II. 1-50), the inlet sections are inclined relative to the outlet section and converge to merge smoothly into the outlet section avoiding sudden changes in the direction of flow as seen in Figure 3, the dispensing valves are on/off solenoid valves (19,27), a control unit (125).

3. Claims 12-13,16-17,21-22,25,27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pirker et al. 6,056,208.

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Pirker et al. disclose a dispense head (4) comprising an inlet (2) for connection to a beverage supply line (col. 2, II. 61-67), the inlet communicating with a dispense valve opening to a dispense nozzle (6) having an outlet (col. 2, II. 61-67onto col. 3, II. 1-58), means for draining the dispense nozzle downstream of the dispense valve through the dispense nozzle outlet when the dispense valve is closed (col. 3, II. 1-58), the inlet for admitting air comprises a passageway controlled by a drain valve that is closed to prevent air being drawn into the nozzle during beverage dispense (col. 3, II. 38-58 and as seen in Figure 3).

### Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 20 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

## Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 6/29/2006 have been fully considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

#### Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frederick C. Nicolas whose telephone number is (571)-272-4931. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin P. Shaver, can be reached on 571-272-4720. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

FΝ

September 17, 2006

Frederick C. Nicolas Primary Examiner